

Message Text

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22

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-11 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-15 OMB-01 ACDA-10 AID-05 /102 W

----- 111474

R 221108Z JAN 76

FM AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6745

INFO AMEMBASSY ACCRA

AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMCONSUL CAPETOWN

AMEMBASSY COTONOU

AMEMBASSY DAKAR

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LOME

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY MONROVIA

AMEMBASSY NIAMEY

AMEMBASSY OUAGADOGOU

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

UNCLAS ABIDJAN 0730

CAPETOWN FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, IV, AO

SUBJECT: USHER COMMENTS ON RETURNING FROM OAU SUMMIT

REFERENCE STATE 008555

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1. GOIC FOREIGN MINISTER USHER WAS INTERVIEWED BY PRESS AT ABIDJAN AIRPORT JANUARY 19 ON HIS RETURN (FOLLOWING EUROPEAN STOPOVER) FROM OAU SUMMIT AT ADDIS ABABA. FOLLOWING IS SUMMARY OF HIS REMARKS.

2. CHARACTERIZING THE OAU SUMMIT AS A FAILURE, USHER SAID THAT ONLY THE AFRICAN CHIEFS OF STATE COULD NOW FIND A SOLUTION TO THE ANGOLA PROBLEM "SINCE THEIR FOREIGN MINISTERS HAD FAILED".

3. USHER SAID THERE WERE TWO FACTIONS AT ADDIS, ONE WANTING A CESSATION OF HOSTILITIES AND AN AFRICAN SOLUTION TO THE ANGOLA PROBLEM, AND THE OTHER CALLING ONLY FOR THE WITHDRAWAL OF SOUTH AFRICAN TROOPS. THE DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THE TWO SIDES HAD PROVED IRRECONCILABLE. NEVERTHELESS USHER SAID HE THOUGHT THE OAU HAD SURVIVED THE CRISIS AND THAT THE SCHISM BETWEEN THE TWO FACTIONS WOULD PROVE A PASSING PHENOMENON. HE REJECTED THE CHARACTERIZATION OF THE TWO OAU FACTIONS AS "PROGRESSIVE" AND "MODERATE", SAYING HE WOULD DESCRIBE THEM AS "MARIST-LENINIST" VERSUS "PRAGMATIST", WITH IVORY COAST IN THE SECOND CATEGORY.

3. JANUARY 20 ISSUE OF FRATERNITE MATIN WHICH CARRIED SUMMARY OF USHER'S REMARKS ALSO CITED "A GOOD SOURCE" IN LUSAKA TO EFFECT THAT A SECRET INITIATIVE IS BEING UNDERTAKEN BY SEVERAL AFRICAN STATES CALLING FOR A RECONCILIATION OF UNITA WITH MPLA (BUT EXCLUDING FNLA). COOKE

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Disposition Authority: n/a
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Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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